

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/942,768

REMARKS

The Examiner attaches to the Office Action a Notice of References Cited, Form PTO-892. Applicant wishes to point out a typographical error in the JP Pat. Pub. No. of the Iwanage patent under Foreign Patent Documents. That is, 10-245135 should read 10-254135. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant herewith submits a Form PTO/SB/08 A&B listing the Iwanage patent with the corrected information, and respectfully requests that the Examiner initial, date and return a signed copy to Applicant in the Examiner's next communication.

In addition, the Office Action Summary indicates that the Form PTO-1449 (now SB/08) submitted with Applicant's IDS on March 1, 2002 is attached to the Action. However, the Form SB/08 was not attached to the Action. Applicant submits a copy of the Form SB/08 herewith for the Examiner's convenience and respectfully requests that it be returned with the next communication to Applicant.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 2, 11-18 and 20 are indicated to be allowable.

In Paragraph No. 3 of the Action, claims 1, 3, 5-10 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Adegawa (JP 2001-174995). Further, in Paragraph No. 5 of the Action, claims 1, 3-10 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Uenishi et al (EP 1117002) in view of Kobayashi et al (EP 634696).

In response, Applicant herewith submits a verified English translation of his priority document, JP 2000-263815, to perfect his priority claim, and thereby remove JP '995 and EP '002 as prior art against the present claims. Both JP '995 and EP '002 were published after

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Applicant's August 31, 2000 priority date. Section 112 support for the present claims 1, 3-10 and 19 in the priority document is summarized below:

<u>Present Claims</u>	<u>JP '815</u>
1 and 3 to 5	claims 1 and 3 to 5, respectively
6	page 39, last paragraph
7	page 52
8	paragraph bridging pages 57 and 58
9	page 22, 1 st full paragraph
10	paragraph bridging pages 21 and 22
19	page 59, 1 st full paragraph

In view of the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the §102 rejection based on Adegawa JP '995 and the §103 rejection based on Uenishi et al EP '002 in view of Kobayashi et al EP '696.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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